

Patent

E1 e) contacting said film with said advancing substrate.

E2 33. (twice amended) A method of forming a continuous film layer of [coating] a hot melt adhesive onto a substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a melted hot melt adhesive composition;
 - b) advancing a substrate along a path;
 - c) dispensing a continuous film of said hot melt adhesive from a coating device at a coating temperature wherein the hot melt adhesive composition has a complex viscosity ranging from about 100 poise to about 1,000 poise at about 1 radian/second at the coating temperature;
 - d) suspending said film between said coating device and said substrate; and
 - e) contacting said film with said advancing substrate wherein said film has an area weight of less than 20 g/m².
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E3 44. (twice amended) A method of forming a continuous film layer of [coating] a hot melt adhesive onto a substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a molten hot melt adhesive composition;
 - b) advancing a substrate along a path;
 - c) dispensing a continuous film of said hot melt adhesive composition from a coating device at a coating temperature wherein the hot melt adhesive composition has a complex viscosity ranging from about 100 poise to about 1,000 poise at about 1 radian/second at the coating temperature;
 - d) suspending said film between said coating device and said substrate; and
 - e) contacting said film with said advancing substrate wherein said film consists essentially of a single layer of said hot melt adhesive having a film thickness of 75 microns.
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E4 46. (amended) A method of forming a continuous film layer of [coating] a thermoplastic composition onto a substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a molten thermoplastic composition;

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- b) advancing a substrate along a path;
 - c) dispensing a continuous film of said thermoplastic composition from a coating device at a coating temperature wherein [the complex viscosity of] the thermoplastic composition [is] has a complex viscosity of less than about 500 poise at about 1000 radians/seconds at the coating temperature and a complex viscosity ranging[es] from about 100 poise to about 1,000 poise at about 1 radian/second at the coating temperature;
 - d) suspending said film between said coating device and said substrate; and
 - e) contacting said film with said advancing substrate wherein the coat weight of the film is less than 20 g/m².
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Sub
E57
47. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic composition is a polyolefin selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, amorphous polyolefins, and metallocene polyolefins.

48. (new) The method of claim 33 wherein the hot melt adhesive composition comprises up to 40% of a thermoplastic polymer, up to 40% of a plasticizer and up to 70% of a tackifying resin. ✓

Sub
E58
49. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of atactic polyalphaolefins, synthetic rubbers, and ethylenic copolymers.

50. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a synthetic rubber that is a block copolymer.

51. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein the thermoplastic polymer is an ethylenic copolymer that is selected from the group consisting of ethylene-vinyl acetate, ethylene-methyl-acrylate, and ethylene n-butyl acrylate. ✓